

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 09242 241348Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 L-02 H-01 SY-04 RSC-01

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R 241310Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9286

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 9242

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, AR (TALAMANTE, OLGA)

SUBJ: TALAMANTE CASE

REF: STATE 277430

1. EMBASSY WILL MAKE APPROPRIATE REQUEST TO PROVINCIAL CORRECTION AUTHORITIES FOR TALAMANTE TO MAKE COLLECT CALL TO PARENTS AFTER DEPARTMENT PROVIDES TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PARENTS WHEN KNOWN SO WE CAN ASSURE AUTHORITIES THAT CALL WOULD, IN FACT, BE GOING TO THEM. IT IS FELT, HOWEVER, THAT A POSITIVE RESPONSE IS NOT, REPEAT NOT LIKELY, SINCE WE WOULD BE ASKING FOR A PRIVILEGE WHICH AN ARGENTINE IS RARELY, IF EVER, GRANTED.

2. JUDGE'S SECRETARY TOLD CONOFF IN TELECON FRIDAY, DEC. 20, THAT IN SPITE OF PREVIOUS ESTIMATES, A DETERMINATION SHOULD NOT NOW BE EXPECTED BEFORE DEC. 30 OR 31. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT VITAL EVIDENCE, TAPE RECORDINGS OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR GUERRILLA TACTICS AND ACTIVITIES, FOUND AT THE TIME OF THE ARREST, ARE BEING REDUCED TO WRITING AND THIS IS TAKING MORE TIME THAN USUAL, HENCE THE FURTHER DELAY.

3. GIVEN LEVEL OF RIGHT-WING TERRORISM IN COUNTRY, WHICH IN SEVERAL CASES HAS BEEN AIMED AT LAWYERS WHO HAVE DEFENDED LEFT-WING TERRORISTS, THERE COULD BE SOME DIFFICULTIES IN SECURING LEGAL COUNSEL OTHER THAN ONE APPOINTED BY COURT.

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 09242 241348Z

JUDGE IPPOLITO TOLD CONOFF THAT IF PRIVATE LAWYER DOES NOT

ACCEPT CASE BY NEXT WEEK, HE WILL APPOINT A PUBLIC DEFENDER, PROBABLY A DR. SASTRE AVELLA OF AZUL--WHO IS DESCRIBED AS VERY COMPETENT.

4. CLASSIFIED, RPT CLASSIFIED NOTE DATED 20 DEC., 1974
JUST RECEIVED FROM FONMIN IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY'S NOTE OF DEC. 9 (BUENOS AIRES 8941). NOTE SUMMARIZES SITUATION AS EMBASSY HAS ALREADY REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT, BUT MAKES STRONG POINT THAT "GOA HAS FULLY COMPLIED WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH GOA IS SIGNATORY AND THAT ANY DOUBT RAISED WITH RESPECT THERETO DOES NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONFIDENCE ON WHICH THE HARMONIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES OUGHT TO BE BASED." COPY OF NOTE BEING POUCHED.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUENOS09242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741211/aaaaaiww.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 STATE 277430
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TALAMANTE CASE
TAGS: CASC, AR, (TALAMANTE, OLGA)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005